THE BHARAT SCOUTS & GUIDES BULLETIN

MADRAS STATE

381

OUR SCOUT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

SRI N. D. SUNDARAVADIVELU
State Commissioner - Scouts

A SCOUT GUIDE IS
TRUSTY
LOYAL
HELPFUL
BROTHERLY
COURTEOUS

A SCOUT GUIDE IS
KIND
DISCIPLINED
CHEERFUL
THRIFTY
PURE

VALUE OF SCOUTING

The importance of Scouting in the educational system in building up the character of the pupils was emphasised by Mr. N. D. Sundaravadivelu, Director of Public Instruction at a meeting held to felicitate him at Wenlock Park in Triplicane by the Bharat Scouts and Guides Officers on 16-12-54.

Sri K. Venkataswami Naidu, State Chief Commissioner, congratulated Mr. Sundaravadivelu who was the State Commissioner for Scouts on his appointment as the Director of Public Instruction. He said that the scout movement would make great progress in the State with an enthusiastic Scout as the head of the Educational Department.

Sri. K. Shanmugam, Principal, Sir Theagaraya College hoped that Mr. Sundaravadivelu would take steps to improve the status of teachers.

Mrs. Mary Clubwala Jadhav, Mrs. Peters and Mr. S. Amudachari also spoke on the occasion.

Mr. Sundaravadivelu said that any sound educational system should give an important place for scouting. Mere training of the intellect was not enough and they had to pay attention to the training of character. For this purpose, the Director said they could not find a better way than scouting. He assured them that his Department would do its best to promote scouting in the State.

Mr. V. S Ratnasabhapathy, State Secretary proposed a vote of thanks.

A Camp fire Dance

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(Approved by the Director of Public Instruction, Madras)

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OURSELVES

1954. The year 1954 has been a great year for Scouting in India. Two very important events that may be mentioned are, the All India Jamboree at Hyderabad and the All India Training Commissioners' Conference at Pachmarhi. During the year the National Council of the Bharat Scouts and Guides India met and elected its Office-Bearers as a duly constituted body. The A.P.R.O has been revised and will come into force from April 1955. The States have also done their best in consolidating the Organisation. The Bharat Scouts and Guides which brought together the three Organisations into one has now come to stay. The Movement received the recognition from the two International Bodies and the step that we took to bring the two sections together is not only supported but eagerly watched with interest by other countries.

The year's work has given us confidence to go forward from success to success. Speaking of Madras we may say that Madras had given every support to the National Council in its work and has tried to work the Movement to success in the State. The three Divisions, Coimbatore, Mathurai and Madras have established their centres and are functioning efficiently as such vying with each other.

The Community Project Service undertaken both in the Malabar District and Chingleput District have proved very useful and given us encouragement to plan for more such activities in all the Districts in the State in the coming year. A circular regarding this is published elsewhere.

The Headquarters had conducted two Seminars, one on 'Youth Welfare' and another on 'Recration'

and both have been attended by a large number of Scouters and Guiders as well as youth Leaders.

The Block Development Officers Training as Commissioners to associate their work with Scouting in villages and the holding of a Cub Wood Badge Course in Tamil are activities calculated to take Scouting into villages.

The play-ground started at the State Headquarters for children with the help of the Central Social Welfare Board is another important feature of our work in the year 1954. In the Districts steady work has been going on ; more Training Courses for Officers have been held and a total of 448 Scouters 175 Guiders have been trained to man our growing movement. On the whole the year has been a year of usefulness and benefit to the 50,000 boys and girls that are enrolled into the Movement. May it continue to benefit many more boys and girls in the year 1955 is our hope and appeal to all concerned.

—*Editor*

All India Scout Training Commissioners Conference Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh, 26-30th Dec. '54

ABOUT 40 Training Commissioners representing both Scouts and Guides Sections gathered at Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh, at the invitation of the National Commissioner Dr. Hridaynath Kunzru with a view to review the present scheme of Training and to formulate proposals to draw up a new Scheme based on the past experiences and present day requirements.

Various suggestions were made by the delegates in the matter of the conduct of the Himalaya wood Badge Courses and other forms of Training such as Preliminary, Refreshers etc., The very policy of the Training Scheme was considered in detail. In doing so the Gilwell Scheme came in for great deal of scrutiny and discussion. It was agreed that while we take into account the various schemes that are available and are in vogue in other Countries, the policy of our Scheme should be one that is suitable to India and not a mere copy of any Scheme that may exist any where else. Therefore it may be said and truly so that a reorientation was given to our Scheme of Training.

It will not be out of place to mention that in this very important matter Madras delegates made a valuable contribution. The Conference sessions were held at different beauty spots in the Pachmarhi Hills, right in the open under the canopy of Heaven presided over by the National Commissioner Dr Hridayanath Kunzru whose wise guidance of the delebrations of the Conference is responsible for the success achieved

A spirit of commradrie that characterised the groups of delegations was noteworthy while it encouraged a unanimous decision in all matters it did not stand in the way of frank expression being given to one's views even though opposed to each other Recommendations of Tara Devi Conference formed the basis of review in addition to the Training work done in the various states Madras State was represented by the following

1 Sri V. S Ratnasabhapathy, D.C.C., State Secretary

2. Sri J. I. Muthiah, D C.C., S.O C., Coimbatore Division

3. Sri M. Rajagopalan, D.C C., S.O.C., Madurai Division

4. Miss S. P. Dorai Raj, A.D.C.C., Joint State Organising Commissioner, Guides

5. Sri V. P. Ramasamy, A. D. C C., Coonoor
6. Sri A. Swayambu, A.D C.C., Tanjore
7. Sri K. Balakrishnan, A.D C C., Tanjore
8. Sri J. D. Asirvatham, A.D.C.C., Madurai

Besides National Head Quarters, Delhi, Railways, Rajastan, Bombay, Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Bopal, Andhra, Travancore-Cochin, Hyderabad and Madras State sent their delegates both Scouts and Guides. The Chief Commissioner (Scouts) Mr Justice Vivian Bose, who has a thorough knowledge of Pachmarhi made all arrangements for the comfortable stay of the delegates and provided fecilities for transport etc But for Mr. Bose it would not have been possible to make such perfect arrangements and Conference is therefore gratetul to Mr. and Mrs Vivian Bose.

The Madhya Pradesh Government and its Chief Minister Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla very generously offered 40 acres of land free of cost for the establishment of a Central All India Scout and Guide Training Centre and a grant of Rs. 20,000 - for the construction of Buildings at the Training Centre. This place was visited by the delegates and they were very much impressed by its natural beauty and its surroundings It is the opinion of the Conference that this site will grow into an ideal one and already steps are taken to make the centre available at a very early date to enable holding of a Wood Badge Training Course in April next.

1. It was decided that a Scarf with the figure of snow-caped Himalaya Mountain Peak, Patch and sandal wood beads, worn in a blue silk cord should replace the present Gilwell scarf and beads as the badge, and insignia of the Himalaya Wood Badge of Bharat Scouts and Guides, India.

2. Village Scouting to be given prominance in our programme of work in the coming years and a Central Committee of Seven to be appointed by the National Commissioner to submit a Scheme in this matter.

3 The Association should extend its full co-operation to the Community Projects coming under the National Extension service, Block development, Rural Department and youth Camps of the Five Year Plan in the Building up of a new India.

Both in the opening talk and closing the National Commissioner touched upon the spirit of Unity that prevailed in our organisation and how it should be preserved and the need to revitalise and consolidate our movement in the light of the discussions we have had, to make our movement a powerful and increasingly useful Youth Movement in our country and that this can happen only with the hearty and loyal co-operation of every State. He offered his services to the States in the best interest of the younger generation.

As one who was present at the Conference I am glad to state that the Bharat Scouts and Guides, India is now coming to its own. It is my humble opinion that the National Head Quarters having to deal with many problems relating to the Movement along varied lines in the vast continent like India should not be ill-manned as it, is today, The Secretariat must be strengthened, with the organisation of Departments of Training, Publicity, Organisation, Research, not to talk of special Departments such as Air Scouting, Sea Scouting, Special tests etc., etc. Not only these but there should be complete decentralisation, throwing responsibility on the man on the spot from the local Associations or rather from the National Head quarters down to the Troops.

The country should be divided into convenient regions which would make for effective supervision, efficiency, and encourage local initiative. There should be a department at work all the time to select and train up young leaders to take up responsibility in the leadership of the movement at every stage, from the patrol leader to the National Commissioner.

The first step in this direction is in our opinion the Pachmarhi Conference. May we hope the successive steps will follow with equal zest and achievement.

The Conference had also its side activities such as a concert very kindly arranged by the residents of the Pachmarhi Cantonment area under the leadership of Mr. De'Silva, the president of the Board of the Pachmarhi Club on 29-12-1954.

—V. S. R.

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Community Projects by Scouts and Guides

To

The District Commissioners and Secretaries,
Madras State.

Dear Brother/Sister,

THE Summer Rural Service Camps by Scouts and Guides held at Tirukalikundram, Senji in Chingleput District during last May and also similar camps held in the District of Malabar at Puducode, Vadavannur etc., in the matter of laying roads, renovating irrigation tanks, cleaning of the villages etc., etc. have been so successful that we are encouraged to plan for similar camps in all the Districts in our State for the coming summer holidays. It is suggested that every District should take up atleast 2 Projects, each project to be undertaken by a batch of 300 Scouts and Guides for a period of 3 weeks. The Project, to be chosen by the District Commissioners of both the sections in the respective Districts, in consultation with the Revenue authorities and the Block Development Officers working under the National Extension Schemes or the Community Project Service.

After selecting the Project the Commissioners should recruit Scouts and Guides to undertake this work. The Scouts will supply the manual labour and the Guides will help to distribute medicine and attend to the sanitation of various homes near-by and advice the women and children on sanitary living etc., etc. A central Camp to be established at the work spot or very near to it, where the Scouts and Guides will live under the supervision and direction of the Commissioners and the other officers in charge.

Food arrangements should be made there for the Campers. The Government will give a grant of Rs. 2/- per head per day to meet the food charges, besides meeting the cost of the actual materials necessary for completing the project undertaken.

An estimate should be submitted to the State Headquarters for being forwarded to the Government for the sanction of the amount necessary. This should be taken up sufficiently in advance and the proposals sent to us before 31st of January 1955. It is hoped that every district will take up atleast 2 Projects and see that they are completed successfully. Please let me have a line in reply, acknowledging this circular and informing me as to what steps you are taking in the matter.

I need not mention to you the benefits of undertaking a Project like this to our Scouts and Guides.

1. We as a Nation Building Organisation give a helping hand to build a new India under Five Year Plan of the Government of India.

2. This is very good training in Community Service for our boys and girls.

3. They come into touch with the village people and identify themselves with them and their life.

4. They come to learn the needs and requirements of the villagers and co-operate with the villagers in providing them.

5. They erase the distinction that exists between the villager and the town-bred, educated etc., etc.

6. Our boys will understand the dignity of labour and the joy that comes out of self-effort and creating a new country.

7. This is practical education and real Scouting and training in true citizenship.

N.B. -Separate arrangement should be made for Guides to stay.

Post Box 424,
Wenlock Park, Madras-5
16—1—1955

Yours in service,
V. S. RATNASABHAPATHY,
State Secretary

The Volunteer—an Essential for Scouts & Guides

BY H. D. EDGREN,

Fulbright Professor of India — 1954-55

THE volunteer leader can be an asset to such organizations as the Scouts and Guides and a benefit to the volunteer himself We cannot afford not to use him for the contribution he makes to the programme in our communities, for there are many tasks that might better be done by a volunteer and a job of recreation in any community is too big for one or two persons on the staff. The professional leader will need constantly to widen the scope of his influence and the influence of programme through the use of many volunteers.

The argument is often made that, for economic reasons we better use as many volunteers as possible because we cannot afford to pay for this leadership ; Or, we are likely to say "Well, it's all right at the board level or committee level, " but when it comes to programme leadership we better pay for it and get the expert. I would raise the question whether the volunteer is to blame or whether the professional in both the choice, training and supervision ought to accept some of the blame.

However, the more important contribution in this area is to the volunteer himself for what it does to him or her It seems to me that we are missing a real point if we fail to recognize that in the programme use of volunteers we have a very important area ; that of the contribution to the volunteer himself. Where, in the total programme of recreation can one do a better job of meeting the basic needs of persons, the need for recognition, sense of worth, sense of belonging, and being related to a cause, than in the role of being a volunteer leader and as such a member of the organization's staff. Instead of the professional worker thanking the volunteer, may be it would be more realistic to think that the volunteer should thank the agency for the opportunity of being in a programme position where he gets his sense of worth and the real joy of full living.

Before one can assume that volunteers are only a necessary evil, or that one gets along better without them the reader will need to face the fact that there are hundreds of organizations today which are really supported and controlled by laymen and laywomen. We need only mention the various welfare organizations, the private agencies, the luncheon clubs, the PTAs, the family welfare organization, private clubs, public recreation, missionary society, adult education, churches. These are only a few that are almost completely "manned" by volunteer help.

The services rendered by volunteers in these organizations range from the members of the Boards of Control of agencies to chairmen of almost every committee, publicity managers, instructors in dramatics, the dance, physical activities, outdoor education, club leaders, editors of papers only to mention a very few of the possibilities of leadership. George Hjelte, Recreation Manager of the City of Los Angeles reminds us "One who has experienced pleasure and acquired skill in any recreational activity yearns frequently to impart his skill to others." It might be appropriate here to identify some of the ways and methods that a professional ought to use, in both the securing and the maintaining of a volunteer staff. In a book published in 1938 by L. L. McClow of the Chicago YMCA entitled, VOLUNTEERS FOR CLASS, CLUB, AND COMMITTEES, he gives the benefit of study and research in this area of volunteers. He suggests that volunteers should not be expected to offer their services, but that professionals should seek them out by personal solicitation for a specific job that they are able to do with the promise that they will secure training and supervision. In answering the argument that most professionals raise regarding reliability, he points out that they are more likely to be dependable if they have intellectual and cultural interests, a respect

for the views and personality of others, a purposeful desire to be of service, mature, and feel themselves related to the group. That is, they are more likely to be dependable if they are part of the same general neighbourhood and that they ought not to be given more than a maximum three hours per week and this amount of time should be known by the prospective volunteer.

In this study, Mr. McClow pointed out that among those who discontinued leadership, there were 23% because of outside conflicts, 22% lack of prominent interest, 13% irresponsibility, 9% discontinued membership, 9% inability, 5% the class was not interested, 5% ill health, and 4% miscellaneous. This book indicates that discontinued leadership can be lessened if the volunteer is given the whole view of the job to be done and his entire year is taken into account in the first interview between the professional and the volunteer.

This study further points out very definitely that the value of the volunteer, both to the programme, and to himself, is dependent pretty much upon the form of training, supervision, and motivation. Every volunteer has a right to expect adequate training and supervision.

The process in this total picture of securing and maintaining volunteers is a chain of the following links: discovery, enlistment, training, supervision, organization, recognition, and evaluation.

Whether volunteers are effective or not, depends upon the professional workers. The use made of them will also depend upon the belief of the professional worker in the importance of this role to the volunteer himself.

H. D. EDGREN.

Tiruchirapalli St. John's Vestry High School Guide Company

CONCERT 22-11-54

"WE are glad to see you here. Thank you for coming. We hope you will enjoy our concert."

These words were flashed in semaphore to the audience, at a Guide concert held in St John's Vestry High School, Tiruchirapalli, on Monday, 22nd November The Guides belonged to the School Guide Company, and their welcome in semaphere (kindly translated for the benefit of non-Guides and Scouts!) was a happy omen of the welcoming and cheerful atmosphere which was to pervode the whole concert.

It was good to see a Guide concert which really was "Guide-y" where we learnt something of what Guiding is and does, and were not given merely a succession of variety items such as any group of school girls can produce. We heard Guide songs, saw the Guide Patrol system at work, and at the end watched an impressive pageant of Guide Laws.

But was the concert of educational value only? Far from it. The founder of Scouts and Guides made his movements really good fun At any rate, thousands of boys and girls who have been shown the real thing, have found them so. This concert was fun—and that, for those who took part as well as for those who watched! The Bulbuls especially were having a very happy time, as, gay in blue and white, they danced and sang in Sixes, acted Nursery Rhymes adapted to health topics, and every now and again gave some help to their big sisters! And as for the presence of a good many Mummies and Daddies, not to mention our revered Scout Commissioner who presided, and his colleague, our Guide Commissioner, who gave her own welcome to the audience at the beginning, well, that just made everything more exciting still!

Guiding is international How many more Companies in the State could, I wonder sing with understanding, songs in Tamil, Hindi, Malayalam, Italian and English *and* dance sympathetically folk dances of India, Switzerland, Sweden, the United States and England? (Yes! We'd like to know that you can!)

It is good to know that a substantial sum has been raised towards the special object of the concert—the purchase of new Guide uniforms

So thank you all,—Captain, A.D.C., Flock Leader, Guides and Bulbuls for a happy evening. And may get those new uniforms soon!

Well done, Guides. —*Ed.*

Training Courses—Madras City

CENTRAL MADRAS

1. A non-continuous (Week-end) Training Course for 40 Scout Masters was conducted between the 30th October—28th Nov. 1954 on Saturdays and Sundays. The Camp of the Course was held at the Corley High School Compound, Tambaram from the 26th to the 28th November 1954. Students from the Meston Training College, Madras-i-Azam, and Scouters from the City Districts attended the Course Janab Mohamed Noorudeen A.D.C.C. was incharge of the Course assisted by Messrs. J. Jayaraj and D S. Mathias, A. D C Cs.

2. Another batch of 45 Teacher Pupils of the Government Training School, Egmore were under training at the Besant Camping Centre, Adyar between 28th November 1954 and 9th December 1954 The Course was inaugurated by the State Secretary, Sri V S. Ratnasabhapathy on the 28th November 1954 Mr. J. I. Muthiah D.C.C. was in charge of the course, in co-operation with Mr M Ram Mohan A D C.C. Mr H. Ramanathan, District Commissioner, South Madras helped the Course for Physical Training activities and First Aid Training. Mr D. Kuppuswami of the Gokhale Rover Crew acted as the Quarter Master of the Camp. Sri S. Venkataraman, Group Leader, Dhanvantri Scout Group, helped the Camp in Training the Campers in Pioneering (II Class Standard) at one of the Camp Sessions.

Sri P. K Ranganayakulu B.A L.T, Dy Director of Public Instruction presided over the visitors' Evening Meet on the 8th December 1954. Messrs. Sundaravaradan, B.A, L.T., Headmaster and Vadivelu Pillai, B.A L.T made all the preliminary arrangements and were responsible for the success. Sri. A. Radhakrishnan, and Sri purushotham Teacher pupils were the scribe and Store Keeper of the Camp.

NORTH MADRAS

3. A group of 14 Pupil Teachers of the St. Gabriels' Training School were trained as Cub Masters, at the Rajah's Gardens, Tirur from 17th December 1954 to the 23rd December 1954, Sri M. Ram Mohan A.D C.C. was in-charge assisted by Scouter T. Veeraswami and Scouter G. Inniah, B.A L.T., Rover Scout V. Chandrakesavan helped as Instructor.

Sri N. D Sundaravadivelu, M A.L T., State Commissioner (Scouts) presided at the Visitors' Evening on the 2nd December 1954. Rev Fr. Adaikalam and Sri C. V Naidu District Scout Commissioner Rev. Fr Baut, and Sri S. Natarajan, M.A.L.T., addressed the campers.

SOUTH MADRAS

4. A non continuous Training Course for Scout Masters numbering 18 was inaugurated on the 6th December 1954 by the State Secretary Sri V. S. Ratnasabhapathy at the P. S. High School Compound and the regular sessions are being conducted every Sunday for 8 weeks to be concluded with a Camp at the end of January 1955. Mr J Jayaraj, A D.C.C. is in charge of the course assisted by Messrs H. Ramanathan, District Commissioner, V. G. G. Sarma District Secretary and Scouter K. Rajagopalan. Candidates from a number of open groups are participating in this course.

5. 29 B T. Students of the Teachers' College, Saidapet were at Training as Scout Masters from the 31st December 1954 to

11th January 1955 at their camping grounds. Janab Mohamed Noorudeen, A.D.C.C was in charge of the course, assisted by Mr. M. Ram Mohan, A.D.C C. and Mr. J Jayaraj, A D.C.C. The Principal of the College Mr. T. P. Santanakrishna, an experienced Scouter kindly took some classes. Mr. R. Thirugnana Sambandam, Lecturer of the College and Rover Scout V. Chandrakesavan of North Madras helped in the arrangements. Scouter Mir Hadi Ali Kirmani, District Rover Scout Leader, Central Madras, helped the Course as Assistant Scoutmaster

Sri N. D. Sundaravadivelu, M A.L.T., State Commissioner inaugurated the Course on the 31st December 1954

Note

Cub Masters Preliminary Training Courses have been planned to be conducted for the Training School, Egmore, Basic Training School, Tirur and others after the Pongal Holidays and during February 1955. For further particulars please write to the State Headquarters, Wenlock Park, Post Box 424, Triplicane, Madras-5.

TANJORE DISTRICT

Cub Masters Training Course

Under the auspices of the above Association at Papanasam a Training Camp for Cubmasters was held from 26th December to 1st January 1955 at Kabisthalam near Papanasam 24 Masters and one Mistress underwent the training and the Camp was in charge of Sri K S. Sundaresan, A.D.C.C. assisted by Messrs V. Vythilingam, Golden Rock and Akshyam, H. Krishnamoorthy.

The Camp was inaugurated by Sri K S. Seshadry, Assistant State Commissioner. The Organisation and the arrangements of the Camp was in charge of Sri S. Palaniswamy Moopanar, President Local Association and the member of Tanjore District Board and Messrs G. Lakshmana Moopanur, V. Varadharajan, Secretaries, of the Local Association and Sri L. Muthukumara Mupanar, B.A.L.T., Vice-President, Local Association and Headmaster, Board High School, Papanasam.

The visitors day was presided over by Sri N. Ramakrishnan B.A., Revenue Divisional Officer, Kumbakonam and Sri A. Y. S. Parisutha Nadar, District Commissioner (Scouts) Tanjore West addressed on Scouting. Mr. T. R. Rajagopal, Taluk Development Officer (N.E.S.) spoke about National Extension Scheme. Messrs K. R. Thiruvengada Moopanar, Kabisthalam Estate and S. Palanisamy Mupanar, Member Tanjore District Board were "AT HOME" to the visitors.

V. G. KALIAPERUMAL, A.D.C.
Camp Secretary

DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITY

The District Council in most countries has two principal tasks :

First—to create opportunities for boys to become members through the organisation of Scout Groups

Second—to ensure the effectiveness of these groups in citizenship training and character building, through providing training for leaders and promoting programme based upon sound organisation and administration.

The success or failure of Scouting in the District depends upon the provision of District leadership which has available proper facilities and manpower to perform these two principal tasks. Care in the initial selection and training of District Leaders is important. The development of simple, sound financial planning to provide the facilities is essential.

D. C. SPRY

Extracts from Eight Thousand Adolescents, A Study of Young People in Birmingham, published in 1950

BY GEORGE ALLEN & UNWIN LTD., LONDON

MIXED OR SINGLE-SEX?

ONE feature of recent developments in the Youth Service in the last few years has been the astonishing growth of mixed youth clubs. Most of the clubs directly sponsored by Local Education Authorities are mixed. Before the war mixed youth organisations were comparatively few, and the National Association of Boys' Clubs still declares that 'it does not believe that it is in the boy's best interests to join a mixed club which has a common membership for boys and girls.'* This contention is not without support from other quarters. In contrast, the National Association of Girls' Clubs added 'and Mixed Clubs' to its name in 1944, and now reports twice as many mixed clubs as girls' clubs as compared with 40,000 girls and 45,000 boys in mixed clubs. The Methodist Youth Department reports over 4,000 clubs (which are mostly mixed) and 90,000 members in the 14-20 age range.

The general consensus of opinion today is moving steadily in favour of mixed organisations for young people in their teens, but it is not to be forgotten that there are weighty considerations which can be advanced on the other side.

In favour of single-sex organisations it is contended that:

(a) Both physical and intellectual training are best given to each sex separately during those years when young people are not mature enough to have achieved controlled relationships with the opposite sex. It is easier, for example, to get boys to discuss current affairs or politics when they are by themselves than when they are in a mixed group.

(b) Boys in mixed clubs are less 'manly' or 'virile' than are boys in boys' clubs. The element of truth in this contention would appear to be that whereas in a single sex unit boys have a healthy rivalry in ways which foster skill and courage, in a mixed society they tend to compete for the attention of the girls in ways which encourage vanity. The ground of competition is changed.

(c) The fact that girls develop physically and emotionally so much more rapidly than do boys makes it unwise to put them together. The girl of fourteen wants to meet with boys—the boy of fourteen is not eager to be with girls. He needs, therefore, to be protected from the girl.

(d) In the early teens at least it is better for boys and girls to find their interests in the activities which form part of the club programme rather than in one another. The presence of the other sex can be a distraction and leads to divided loyalties and waning interest in cultural activities.

(e) The best character-training is achieved if boys engage with boys and girls with girls in the pursuits appropriate to the respective sexes.

On the other hand, and in favour of the mixed organisation, it may be said:

(a) The natural setting of all true growth and education is the family. All segregation is artificial. At every age we need what companionship with the opposite sex can give as an important element in training.

(b) It is much better for boys and girls to meet together for shared activities of all kinds than that they should only meet under 'romantic' associations at dance-halls or cinema. There is less likelihood of relationships of a sentimental character when association is taken for granted in frequent contacts of all kinds.

(c) A mixed organisation, therefore, facilitates the development of mature adult relationships with the members of the

* The Contribution of Boys Clubs to the Life of our Time 1948.

opposite sex, to attain which is one of the most urgent of the adolescent's needs. Segregation in any single-sex organisation may positively retard this development. There are adults who have taken refuge from the effort of adjustment in single-sex societies.

(d) Some very valuable activities—especially in connexion with music and drama—are only possible in mixed groups.

(e) Boys and girls will meet together in any case and it is better that we should provide the place of meeting than that they should meet at street corner or in public dance-hall. In our Twenty Questions inquiry we asked whether young persons answering the questions thought there should be mixed clubs or separate clubs for boys and girls, and it is interesting to note that [illegible]5 per cent of the boys and 81 per cent of the girls came down on the side of the mixed club. The highest vote for singlg-sex clubs was among boys of fourteen years of age but even then it only amounted to 30 per cent. We were particularly surprised to discover that most members of single-sex organisations of all kinds expressed themselves as being in favour of mixed clubs.

Our own judgment is that the case for the mixed organisation is stronger than that for the single-sex unit, although we are sure that in any mixed club there should be some opportunities for boys and girls—especially for the younger boys to meet separately. We have found no evidence in support of the assertion that boys in mixed clubs are less 'manly' or 'virile' than boys in boys' clubs. The former appear to be just as keen for football or boxing or athletics as are boys in boys' clubs, and distinguish themselves as frequently in leagues and competitions There are no doubt some boys and girls who go to a mixed club merely go because they want to be in each other's company, but it by no means follows that in a mixed club all activities are shared. Of the 1[illegible]6 mixed organisations we visited, twenty-eight offered one night a week for boys and nineteen one night a week for girls only. Sometimes, however, we found ourselves wishing that there were more mixed activities It is surely desirable that boys and girls should meet together not only for half an hour's dance at the end of the club evening but for other activities as well. It is good that the boy should see how his girl friend behaves when she does not get her own way on the committee, and that the girl should see how the boy friend shapes when on canteen duty.

We do not feel that the charge that is sometimes made that mixed clubs promote a too free-and-easy relationship between boys and girls can be generally substantiated, though we do not think that all leaders know how to use the opportunities of mixed activities to promote high standards. We return to a discussion of this matter in the chapter on Leadership.

The desirable policy, in our judgment, so far as clubs are concerned, would seem to be in the provision of some separate premises or some separate facilities for boys and girls in the setting of a mixed community Uniformed organisations would be well advised, we believe, to promote more frequent mixed activities. We did discover one instance where members of an Air Training Corps and of a Women's Junior Air Corps share certain training together, but this must be almost unique among pre-Service units. *Both the Boy Scout and Girl Guide organisations have officially accepted the principle of some combined activities, but* the implementation of this principle is still only very occasional, though we learnt of one Birmingham Rover Crew which shared a camp on the Isle of Wight with members of Ranger Company".

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In this matter the Bharat Scouts and Guides India has set a fine emample by bringing these two sections under one administration and encouraging joint activities wherever and whenever possible under proper leadership. This step has been accepted and encouraged by the International Bodies. The Hindustan Scout Association which had both Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts proved a success during 10 years of its existence.

Editor.

5 MORE HERESIES

I wonder if it is possible to consider the question of Scout Uniform without prejudice?

To start with I suggest that every rule and every activity in Scouting must be regarded from one angle-and one only-the greatest good of the greatest number of boys. So from this angle I put the question -"Does the fact that detailed and elaborate Uniforms Regulations are laid down and enforced operate in the best interests of the boys?" Let's try to think it out calmly.

First let us consider the main points which are advanced in favour of this very exacting uniform. It is exacting. Everything is "laid down" from the colour of garter tabs to the angle of the hat.

B-P himself gave us a few reasons for uniform.

Second-a universal uniform covered up class distinctions. Uniform covered up any differences between "Cook's son, Duke's son, son of a millionaire." This certainly was so in the early days of the Movement. Away back, pre-1914, the "upper and lower classes (in the diction of those far-away days) could be distinguished by one glance at their dress.

This is not so to-day. Like everything else dress standards have levelled up. If anything uniform to-day operates the other way. If, in a comparatively poor Troop, you see a boy in very complete and smart uniform it rather suggests that his parents are better-to-do than the average. Secondly it was a workman-like kit for the activities of Scouting. So it was when B.P. recommended the use of the hat for carrying water, the scarf for improvised bandages and ropes. But how can you possibly maintain the smartness of "turn-out" demanded to day if uniform is put to these practical uses? You would spend all your time ironing your hat, laundering your scarf and putting creases in your pants. Over the years Scout Uniform has degenerated from serviceable "denims" to "ceremonial dress."

Third-the boys like it. Granted it does appeal to a big proportion of the younger boys-as a backwoods kit.

Will someone please show me the small boy who loves having his face washed and being dressed up in his "Sunday best" in and out of season? I doubt if he exists outside a museum or a mental home. When we insist that "outside the boundaries of camp" Scouts must on all occasions wear "full and correct uniform" it's just crackers.

I can remember a Troop being "shown up" for the crime of running to their bathing place, half a mile out of camp, in easy kit. Who's telling me that small boys appreciate this kind of nonsense? The small boy likes uniform the "dressing up" angle-not the spit-and-polish.

As we grow older this love of dressing up gradually fades. We become very self-conscious, very much on our dignity. By-and large the 'teenage lad hates dressing-up-except in conventional clothes for social purposes

Granted again that a certain number of the "very best boys" the potential Queen's Scout type-do rather like to turn out in super-smart uniform on special occasions.

But the core of the Movement are not potential Queen's Scouts. The core of the Movement are very ordinary boys-second-and third rate Scouts if you like-who find a meticulous uniform just a nuisance. I have great sympathy with them. After a full day's work many of them have a wild rush to get to the Troop Meeting at all. To my mind these are just the boys whom it is most vitally important to hold.

I know it is a platitude, but we tend to forget it—the best boys would probably turn out fine men without any Scouting but, for the rest, Scout training may just tip the balance the right way. Are we justified in throwing away that chance for the sake of this one point-uniform?

It would be interesting to know just how much of the "leakage" is due, directly or indirectly, to our insistence on uniform. I think it is a good deal higher than we admit

Quite apart from any real dislike of uniform I have known a number of cases wherein working boys just hadn't time to

change and make it on time. The Scouters were understanding, and quite prepared to stretch the point, but the boys themselves felt out-of-place. They just quietly faded away.

Fourth—we must be outwardly smart " to impress the public ". The public aren't such fools as they look. A good many of them know something about boys, having one or two of their own at home. They don't condemn the whole Movement because they happen to see some Scouts with floppy hats or even grubby knees. Don't you believe it. Some of us have got a " fixation " (or whatever the scientists call it) on this subject of " public opinion. " We go about imagining things-imagining that the great general pnblic are " pointing the finger of scorn " at us. " Look at those awful Scouts-did you notice their hats ? Terrible-I shall write to the papers about it. "

What the " public " is quite probably really saying is " what a jolly lot of boys " and they have quite failed to notice that half of them have forgotten their hats altogether.

Anyway we are a boys' show and I think we'd get a lot further if we paid more attention to the boys' likes and dislikes rather than the real or imaginary reactions of the public.

The Troop or Patrol Meeting is the boys' meeting. As I have said before the normal boy doesn't want to out like a tailor's dummy at every occasion.

We grown-ups are most illogical. On the one hand we insist that the boys should appear spick-and span to the last button ; on the other we advocate the " out " in Scouting through exciting and adventurous activities. How can you possibly approach your " enemy " through half a mile of assorted brambles, attack him, rub his nose (and your own) in the mud and come out at the other end with your shirt all in one piece and your hat set at the correct angle of 90 degrees ?

" Mum " is much more sensible. She knows Johnny and she knows the Scouts so she sends him along in his dungarees.

I knew a Field Commissioner once who tried to enforce the principle " shorts or get out ". This was a splendid way of getting rid of the " weaker breathren " and retaining only the " cream " of the boys. But is this really what we want to do ?

I do not advocate the abolition of uniform. I do advocate a much broader outlook on it. I would retain uniform for ceremonial occasions and for special visits to big centres—common sense. I would not for choice walk down Bond Street in the " easy kit " which causes no sensation in the little village of " Inversneckie ".

No-I've got a shrewd suspicion that all this super-uniform business has grown up as a sop to the AMOUR PROPRE of a certain type of Commissioner who likes to be seen at the head of "a very smart body of boys."

I have a suspicion that we are sacrificing the " not quite so good boy " on the altar of public opinion-or what we think is public opinion. If we don't take a pull we run grave risk of justifying the criticism that Scouting is " an upper class Movement ".

" The Scouter "

FINANCIAL CAMPAIGNS

In the Scout Movement we normally expect our members to pay for their own uniforms and other personal expenses through their own efforts There are however, many services and facilities, which are helpful to Scouting, which cannot easily be financed by the contributions of individual members. In view of the very real value to the community which results from effective Scouting, it has been realized in many places that the community at large has a responsibility to support the Scout Movement financially Benjamin Franklin once said, in regard to the raising of money : "In the first place, I advice you to apply to all those whom you know will give you something. Next, to those whom you are uncertain whether they will give or not, and show them the list of those who have given. Lastly, do not neglect those whom you are sure will give nothing, for in some of them you may be mistaken ".

D. C. SPRY

A Thousand British Scouts for Canada

The British contingent to the Eighth World Jamboree in Canada next year will number a thousand First Class Scouts from all parts of the United Kingdom.

This will be the first time a World Jamboree has been held outside Europe and consequently it will be the farthest distance a British contingent has had to travel. The number of nominations received so far in spite of the high cost involved is extremely encouraging and speaks well of the strength and determination of the Scout Movement in this country.

The Jamboree is being held at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, on the shores of Lake Ontario and the Niagara River, about 14 miles from the famous falls. The actual Jamboree will last 10 days from August 18th 28th Invitations have been sent to Scouts of a hundred countries.

The Jamboree camp will be divided into ten sub-camps, each a tented city of 1,000 Scouts. British Columbia will be responsible for Sub-Camp Pacific; Rocky Mountain Sub Camp will be the responsibility of Alberta; Saskatchewan and Manitoba will operate Prairie Sub-Camp. Ontario will conduct four sub-camps: Great Lakes, Timberlands, Hudson Bay and St. Lawrence; Quebec will call its sub-camp Bonadventure while New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland will combine forces to operate Sub-Camp Atlantic. Sub-Camp Alouette will be under the direction of La Federation des Scouts Cataoliques de la Province de Quebec.

Jamboree Stamp

Canadian Postal authorities will issue a special stamp to commemorate the 8th World Jamboree. Special souvenir cachets will be available for those who wish to obtain first day cover service.

"Information Bulletin"

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A SCOUT CARNIVAL

Speaking about Financial Campaigns, we are glad to note that Coimbatore District is planning to hold a Scout Carnival in the first week of February to raise funds They have several ideas to be put through to make the Carnival a success. We hope that it will surely be a success and an example to other Districts By this effort the District is providing funds for both the District and the State Associations. —Ed.

SOUTH ARCOT DISTRICT -CHIDAMBARAM

About 100 Scouts, Scouters and Rovers under the direction and Supervision of Sri S. Ramaswami Aiyangar ran successfully a Service Camp in connection with the local Arudra Darasanam between the 6th and 8th January 1955 They were all housed and fed all the three days in the R. C. T. High School Buildings

The Camp was inaugurated by Sri A Uthandaraman, I.A.S., Collector of the South Arcot District on the 6th January 1955.

The service rendered by the Scouts was very much appreciated by the Pilgrims.

Mr J. D. Asirvatham, Assistant District Commissioner and Assistant Deputy Camp Chief, Madurai has brought out a Tamil Diary with useful information. The price of a copy is, annas 9 and can be had at the State Headquarters.

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HOW TO KEEP FIT

Guides busy in the Camp

1934

We send you our Scout Greetings for Christmas and the New Year, with the sincere hope that we may all meet again at the Jamboree in Canada.

from

the Hon. President of the International Committee, the Director and Staff of the Boy Scouts International Bureau.

132 Ebury Street,
London, S.W.1.

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